CLAIMS

1. A method of treating migraine comprising administering a therapeutic amount of a migraine drug condensation aerosol, having an MMAD less than 3 μm and less than 5% migraine drug degradation products, to a patient by inhalation, upon activation by the patient of the formation of, and delivery of, the condensation aerosol.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein said condensation aerosol is formed by

a. volatilizing a migraine drug under conditions effective to produce a heated vapor of the migraine drug; and

b. condensing the heated vapor of migraine drug to form condensation aerosol particles.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the migraine drug is selected from the group consisting of lidocaine, verapamil, diltiazem, lisuride, rizatriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, frovatriptan, or naratriptan.

4. The method according to claim 2, wherein said administration results in a peak plasma concentration of said migraine drug in less than 0.1 hours.

5. The method according to claim 3, wherein the administered aerosol is formed at a rate greater than 0.5 mg/second.

6. The method according to claim 1, wherein at least 50% by weight of the condensation aerosol is amorphous in form.

7. A method of treating migraine comprising administering a therapeutic amount of a lidocaine, verapamil, diltiazem, lisuride, rizatriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, frovatriptan, or naratriptan condensation aerosol, having an MMAD less than 3 μm and less than 5% lidocaine, verapamil, diltiazem, lisuride, rizatriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, frovatriptan, or naratriptan degradation products, to a patient by inhalation, upon activation by the patient of the formation of, and delivery of, the condensation aerosol.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein said condensation aerosol is formed by

a. volatilizing lidocaine, verapamil, diltiazem, lisuride, rizatriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, frovatriptan, or naratriptan under conditions effective to produce a heated vapor of lidocaine, verapamil, diltiazem, lisuride, rizatriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, frovatriptan, or naratriptan; and

b. condensing the heated vapor of lidocaine, verapamil, diltiazem, lisuride, rizatriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, frovatriptan, or naratriptan to form condensation aerosol particles.

9. The method according to claim 8, wherein said administration results in a peak plasma concentration of said lidocaine, verapamil, diltiazem, lisuride, rizatriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, frovatriptan, or naratriptan in less than 0.1 hours.

10. The method according to claim 7, wherein at least 50% by weight of the condensation aerosol is amorphous in form.

11. A method of administering a migraine drug to a patient to achieve a peak plasma drug concentration rapidly, comprising administering to the patient by inhalation an aerosol of a migraine drug having less than 5% migraine drug degradation products and an MMAD less than 3 microns wherein the peak plasma drug concentration is achieved in less than 0.1 hours.

12. A method of administering lidocaine, verapamil, diltiazem, lisuride, rizatriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, frovatriptan, or naratriptan to a patient to achieve a peak plasma drug concentration rapidly, comprising administering to the patient by inhalation an aerosol of lidocaine, verapamil, diltiazem, lisuride, rizatriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, frovatriptan, or naratriptan having less than 5% lidocaine, verapamil, diltiazem, lisuride, rizatriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, frovatriptan, or naratriptan degradation products and an MMAD less than 3 microns wherein the peak plasma drug concentration is achieved in less than 0.1 hours.

13. A kit for delivering a drug aerosol comprising:

a) a thin coating of a migraine drug composition and

b) a device for dispensing said thin coating as a condensation aerosol.

14. The kit of claim 13, wherein the migraine drug is selected from the group consisting of lidocaine, verapamil, diltiazem, lisuride, rizatriptan, zolmitriptan, sumatriptan, frovatriptan, or naratriptan.

15. The kit of claim 14, wherein said coating has a thickness between 0.7-5.0 microns.

16. The kit of claim 13, wherein the device for dispensing said coating of a migraine drug composition as an aerosol comprises

(a) a flow through enclosure,

(b) contained within the enclosure, a metal substrate with a foil-like surface and having a thin coating of a migraine drug composition formed on the substrate surface,

(c) a power source that can be activated to heat the substrate to a temperature effective to volatilize migraine composition contained in said coating, and

(d) inlet and exit portals through which air can be drawn through said device by inhalation,

wherein heating the substrate by activation of the power source is effective to form a migraine drug vapor containing less than 5% migraine drug degradation products, and drawing air through said chamber is effective to condense the migraine drug vapor to form aerosol particles wherein the aerosol has an MMAD of less than 3 microns.

17. The kit according to claim 16, wherein the heat for heating the substrate is generated by an exothermic chemical reaction.

18. The kit according to claim 17, wherein said exothermic chemical reaction is oxidation of combustible materials.

19. The kit according to claim 16, wherein the heat for heating the substrate is generated by passage of current through an electrical resistance element.

20. The kit according to Claim 16, wherein said substrate has a surface area dimensioned to accommodate a therapeutic dose of a migraine drug composition in said coating.

21. The kit according to claim 13, wherein a peak plasma concentration of the migraine drug is obtained in less than 0.1 hours after delivery of condensation aerosol to the pulmonary system.

21. The kit of claim 13, further including instructions for use.